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# QUADRENNIAL REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, CATEGORIES I and II

Quadrennial reports, 1988-1991

Report submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 3 May 1968

Addendum

## Mutual Assistance of the Latin American Government Oil Companies (ARPEL)

(Category II)

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## MUTUAL ASSISTANCE OF THE LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT OIL COMPANIES

(Category II)

Mutual Assistance of the Latin American Government Oil Companies (ARPEL) was created on 2 October 1965 at the Third Conference of the Latin American Government Oil Companies in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It represents the governmental petroleum industry of Latin America and is at present composed of 18 active member companies - 17 from Latin America and 1 from Canada.

ARPEL's objective is to foster mutual collaboration and cooperation among its members in support of their common interests, aiming at their development, commercial and technological integration, as well as mutual assistance, environmental protection and development of the Latin American oil industry in the world.

In 1990 five major subjects were studied by ARPEL: oil trading in Latin America, goods and services for the oil industry in Latin America, environmental protection and emergency plans, the natural gas market in Latin America, and the situation of the Latin American oil companies in the world context.

The relations of ARPEL with other international organizations are as follows:

(a) UNIDO. The Industrial Development Board agreed at its eighth session to grant ARPEL consultative status;

(b) United Nations. In 1976 the Economic and Social Council decided to reclassify ARPEL to category II consultative status;

(c) Latin American Integration Association (ALADI). In September 1967, the Latin American Free Trade Association decided to grant category C status of private regional associations to ARPEL. Since 1980 ARPEL has worked with ALADI on activities related to integration in the areas of materials, equipment and services for oil industry.

ARPEL is also closely connected to ECLAC, Organización Latinoamericana Energia (OLADE), Centro Inter-Americano Investigación Documentación Formación Profesional (CINTERFOR), Associación Latinoamericana Armadores (ALAMAR), Comisión Integración Elétrica Regional (CIER), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Sistema Económico Latinoamericano (SELA), the World Bank, and many other international organizations. With most of them, collaboration and cooperation agreements have been signed.

ARPEL publishes information received from those branches of the United Nations concerned with hydrocarbons and petrochemicals in terms of exploration, exploitation, refining, transportation, commerce and research.

Between 1988 and 1991 the organization and programmes of mutual assistance were discussed in four ordinary and two extraordinary assemblies, and four coordinator's meetings. On matters such as exploration, production, computer application, marketing and other aspects of the oil industry, 14 expert group meetings were held. The sub-Andean Cooperative Hydrocarbon Project, started in 1988, sponsored by the World Bank and the Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation and financed by the Assistance Corporation with a budget of 6,500,000 Canadian dollars, is coming to an end, with great success.

A seminar on human resources was organized with the ILO and CINTERFOR in Montevideo, Uruguay, with very significant results.

In October 1988 several events were held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: the Second Latin American Hydrocarbon Congress, the Second Latin American Exposition of Equipment and Services Produced in Latin America for the Hydrocarbon Industry, and the First International Seminar on Petroleum Law. These events were attended by all the member companies of ARPEL plus the leading concerns serving the oil industry, from Latin America and abroad.

ARPEL publishes a newsletter, ARPEL Hoy, dealing with specialist subjects related to different areas of petroleum activity in the member companies, and the quarterly Technical Bulletin of ARPEL, which includes papers coming from ARPEL's meetings of experts, abstracts of papers in English, Spanish and Portuguese, and other papers considered of value.

During the period in question, the High-level Meetings of Managers in Different Areas of Member Companies were created, and three permanent Committees were established: Managers of Research Centres, Managers of Environmental Protection, and Managers of Human Resource Development. Since January 1990, eight Managers and Committee meetings have been held in several countries of Latin America.

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